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Ka'ena Point Advisory Group, DLNR provide update on Ka'ena Point State Park management plan at North Shore Neighborhood Board

HONOLULU -- The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and its Ka'ena Point Advisory Group (KPAG) will present an update to management plans and actions for the Mokuleia portion of this O'ahu wilderness area at a special meeting of the North Shore Neighborhood Board, on Wednesday, July 13, 2011. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. at the Waialua Community Association building in Haleiwa.

Discussion will include five recommendations, which are designed to significantly preserve and protect the unimproved/unpaved portion of Ka'ena Point State Park from further damage by off-road vehicles (ATVs, four-wheel drives and dirt bikes) that has resulted in severe erosion, damage to sand dunes, endangered plants and cultural resources. Degradation of natural, cultural and historical resources have also been caused by illegal bonfires, rave parties, and other inappropriate use.

On October 14, 2010, KPAG presented the following recommendations to the Board of Land and Natural Resources: protection of the Leina A Ka 'Ulane; protection and restoration of the sand dunes; management and prevention of erosion, especially in areas such as Manini Gulch; the designation of a road; and the creation and implementation of a vehicular permitting system for the area beyond the paved road. The DLNR Stewardship Group has incorporated all of these KPAG recommendations into the Final Integrated Ka'ena Point Action Plan.

The Ka'ena Point Advisory Group was formed by the DLNR in April 2009 to work with the public in forming recommendations for a Ka'ena Point Action Plan. The group is comprised of representatives from conservationists, cultural practitioners, fishermen, Friends of Ka'ena Point, North Shore Neighborhood Board, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, O'ahu Island Burial Council, Wai'anae Neighborhood Board, and the YMCA Camp Erdman.

The KPAG aims to engage in constructive discussion to find a balance between various interests and user groups and to advise DLNR on preferred management solutions for Ka'ena Point.

Its mission is to better utilize integrated natural and cultural resources management approaches to increase protection and restoration of coastal areas at Ka'ena Point while supporting sustainable, low-impact recreational opportunities for the public that retain the natural feel of the area and honors its cultural significance.

(more)

In the past two years, KPAG has conducted several site visits and dune protection work days at Ka'ena Point, discussed park issues and reached consensus on several recommendations and options for the state park. The group also had access to DLNR staff from several related divisions to provide clarification on rules, policies and resources at every meeting and event.

Please visit the Ka'ena Point Advisory Group Website for more information and updates:

<http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/kpsa>

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